

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-15 were pending when last examined, all of which stand rejected. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 12-15 are amended.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-15 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action states that the phrase “image data of an nth line” is unclear because it could be one of “a plurality of data lines” or “a plurality of gate lines.” The phrase “nth line” has been amended to “nth horizontal pixel line.”

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 11-15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,356,260 to Montalbo (“Montalbo”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0048249 to Sekido et al. (“Sekido”) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,680, 722 to Hiraki (“Hiraki”).

Claim 1 is patentable over Montalbo, Sekido, and Hiraki at least because it recites “a timing controller for comparing image data of an nth horizontal pixel line applied from outside and image data of an (n-1)th horizontal pixel line stored therein” This is described, for example, in paragraphs [0055] and [0079] of the Application. Unlike the invention, where data are compared pixel line by pixel line, Montalbo discloses comparing the data of each individual pixel with data of the next pixel (see, e.g., Montalbo col. 7, lines 8-18). Sekido and Hiraki also fail to disclose the line-by-line comparison of image data recited in Claim 1. Hence, Claim 1 is patentable.

Although the Office Action cites to Sekido’s paragraphs [0049] – [0050] as teaching that “the timing controller ... does not provide the image data of the nth horizontal pixel line to the data driver when all bits of the image data of the nth horizontal pixel line and the image data of the (n-1)th horizontal pixel lines are complementary to each other,” the cited sections in Sekido only mentions pixel-by-pixel comparison, not line-by-line comparison.

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, and 11 depend from Claim 1 and are thus patentable over Montalbo, Sekido, and Hiraki for at least the same reasons as above.

Claim 12 is patentable over Montalbo, Sekido, and Hiraki at least because it recites “comparing image data of an (n-1)th horizontal pixel line provided in advance and image data of an nth horizontal pixel line being provided currently.” Claim 12 discloses line-by-line comparison of two sets of image data. As explained above in reference to Claim 1, this is distinguishable from the pixel-by-pixel comparison disclosed in Montalbo and Sekido.

Claims 13-15 depend from Claim 12 and are patentable over the cited references for the same reason as Claim 12.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Montalbo in view of Sekido, Hiraki, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,624,868 to Terukina et al. (“Terukina”). Claim 10 depends from Claim 1, and this rejection is based on the assumption that Montalbo, Sekido, and Hiraki disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. However, for the reasons provided above, this is not the case. As Terukina fails to cure the deficiency in Montalbo, Sekido, and Hiraki by disclosing a pixel line-by-pixel line comparison of image data, Claim 10 is patentable.

Conclusion

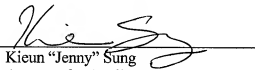
Based on the foregoing, Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-15 are now in condition for allowance. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2257. Please telephone the undersigned attorney at (408) 392-9250 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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